

The Church of God Evangel

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come they were all with one accord in one place." Acts 1:1.
 "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." Acts 2:4.

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DAYS OF PERPLEXITY

Now is a Time That The Greatest Wisdom is Needed.

Coolheaded, Deliberate Decisions Necessary.

With the commotion that is now in the world it seems an easy matter to see that this is the very time referred to by Jesus when He said, "And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars, and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring."

There is great distress on every hand and in all the world. Previous to this time there have been times of local distress, but this is a time when it is universal. Every nation is more or less affected. Every home, rich and poor alike, is touched by the influences of the distresses to a marked degree.

Whole nations are distressed. They do not deny it. Destruction, want, poverty, misery, and everything that it takes to fill the measure of the meaning of the word. Along with the distress of nations comes perplexity. Jesus said with perplexity. People of all classes are in a state of bewilderment. This means the days of perplexity have come.

While the people of the world are perplexed, this spirit of perplexity has also taken hold of many good people. They do not know what to do. They are anxious to do the very right thing, and will do it faithfully if they know it, but they do not know, hence they are perplexed.

This war draft law, and the war itself, are giving our people much concern. We cannot fight and we are sometimes at a loss to know just where to draw the line. We are helping in the war by paying high prices for food and clothing, but these are necessities and we cannot refuse to purchase them.

We are helping in the war by using the mails and purchasing postage stamps, but we cannot stop our correspondence. We are helping in the war by borrowing money at banks and purchasing revenue stamps, but many of our people are in debt and are compelled to get small loans occasionally.

We are helping in the war when we work in the coal mines and dig coal for the government or for companies. The farmer and truck grower, the merchant and mechanic are not exempt from assisting in the war. It makes scarcely any difference what one engages in now he is helping in the war more or less in some way.

Contributions to the Red Cross, or to send aid to the soldiers, or purchasing liberty loan bonds, or doing service of any kind and in almost any manner is assisting in the war directly or indirectly.

But we say we cannot kill; this is true, and yet indirectly we are lending our assistance in the very thing our conscience condemns. We are helping to

pull the triggers that fire the guns that take the lives of our fellow-men. We do not want to do this, but it is forced upon us. Our people know of all this and they are perplexed about it, and they want to know what to do about it.

Our evangelists and ministers that feel the message of love burning in their souls, and are hurrying to carry the glad news by traveling on the railroads, are aware of the fact that they are aiding the war by paying the extra tax for their tickets. They are seeking to save the lost in one place and helping to destroy and kill in another. They go on a mission of love to bless, but by paying their train fare they help to curse. They are hurrying to keep souls out of hell, and pay a tax that is used to help send souls to hell.

There is no use trying to deny this, it is too true. But it is in our hearts to bless and curse not. (Rom. 12:14.) We do not want to kill and mangle our fellowmen, and we do not intend to do it directly, but we are lending our assistance in this matter perhaps in a thousand ways.

I know our people are greatly perplexed about this matter, judging by the hundreds of letters that are pouring into our office every week. I suppose we have answered thousands of questions since the enactment of the war draft law last May. There have been times when we have been compelled to give the war question more of our valuable time than the beloved Church. This is a grief to us, but it has to be done. We are bent on doing all we can to assist our people in this matter. But we have neglected other work to attend to this class of work. I feel pressed to repeat: These are days of perplexity.

We have succeeded in getting some of our men exempt from the firing line, but it places them in other positions that aid the war, and this cannot be avoided unless we decide to refuse to serve the government in any line and take the consequences. Then to do this it would be difficult to draw the line and know just where to stop.

Now is a time when the greatest wisdom is needed. I am sure that there are thousands of prayers offered for the general overseer every day. They are asking God to give him wisdom and ability to meet the requirements under all circumstances. They are anxious for him to be able for every emergency, and he feels the effects of their prayers as he prepares his official appeals to the government. Just at this time important matters are under consideration. Earnest prayers will turn the hearts of government officials. Much

prayer is needed just now while we are swinging in the balance.

Under the present conditions it is no time for freeling around and making hasty conclusions. Cool-headed deliberate decisions are necessary now. It is a good time now to apply the advice of Jesus given at Luke 14:2-32, and sit down and count the cost, and it is not so easy now to tell what the cost will be, but some people will pay the price and go through and reach heaven no matter what it is.

Some are afraid to accept too much and sign too many papers for the government for fear they will accept the mark of the beast, and they would die rather than do this knowingly. But they do not know, and this is cause for perplexity. The way we have to do to purchase fuel in the cities, and the war taxes and registrations all look frightful to our people who are conscientious and want to please the Lord. They do not want to submit to anything that will cause them to lose their souls.

It will be a pleasure to me to assist our loved ones in some way so they can go on with their work of spreading the gospel without too much perplexity. Our work is important and must be prosecuted to the end. The gospel must go and must travel rapidly and should be unhindered, but as Paul acknowledged that Satan hindered him, we are forced to acknowledge that Satan is hindering us now more or less. But we are mustering our forces and preparing to work harder this year than ever. And I believe we will accomplish more for God regardless of the war and all the perplexities that may appear.

There is one thing special to which I wish to call attention right here. When Jesus was asked, "Is it lawful to give tribute to Caesar, or not?" Jesus called for a penny. When they had brought it to Him "He saith unto them, Whose is this image and superscription? And they said unto him, Caesar's. And Jesus answering said unto them, Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's" (Mark 12:15-16.)

By the above incident we believe Jesus furnishes us with a fair explanation of our duty under the present circumstances. The government requires certain taxes, so we will have to pay them where required in order to continue our work in spreading the gospel. We are not responsible for what the tax is used. When Jesus was required to pay tribute He did not ask for what purpose the tribute money was to be used. He only sent Peter out after a fish to get the money to pay it. If it had been used for war it would have been the same with Jesus. He was sending to Caesar the things that were Caesar's. This is the way we will have to do.

We do not approve of capital punishment for criminals, but we pay our tax and this helps to pay salaries to officers that execute the laws, one of which is to hang or electrocute certain criminals. War is a wholesale

slaughter while hanging and electrocuting are only occasional, but the principle is the same.

I would not serve in an office where I would be compelled to take a life when the law said to do it. I could not take a gun and fire it at my fellow men even at the command of a military officer. I could submit to the penalty inflicted upon me for refusing, but I cannot kill. I doubt if I could take the obligation to become a soldier in the first place. I do not say that others should not. There is a stopping place, but it may not be necessary for me to mark the line. If our men are forced into the fighting lines it will be considered by us as a mark of persecution. If our government wishes to lower its standard of freedom of conscience and attempt to compel us to fight when we refuse we cannot prevent it, but we will be obliged to enter the fact upon the pages of history as persecution if they inflict penalties upon us when we politely refuse to kill.

We are facing some very grave problems. We do not know the final results, but God is going to give us grace and wisdom. We are in the world, but not of the world. While we are here we must obey the laws of the country in which we live so

long as those laws do not require us to disobey God, then God must be first even if the penalty is inflicted upon us. This is God's Word. Here is where we must stand. We must be loyal to God and to one another. We must stick close together now in these days of perplexity, and trust God to give us the necessary wisdom and love. I believe He will do it.

Surely, surely, we will put aside everything that has the least tendency to create friction or crosses between individuals, and stand firmly knit together in love. We must lovingly and tenderly bear with one another in our misunderstanding. In speaking of one another to others we should use the most endearing terms, and when we talk together a good sweet spirit should always prevail.

I wish I could emphasize that sweet word "love," but I would much rather exalt the experience and the importance of having it in our lives. "Love never faileth." We need something that will not fail now in these days of perplexity. Everything else may fail in these days of peril, but this one thing will stand. "And now abideth faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love." (1 Cor. 13:13)

Remember Him And His Word.

AARON A. SMITH.

"For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds." Heb. 12:3.

"Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his Lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep your's also." Jno. 15:20.

In this world of care and woe, we, as followers of the lowly Christ need to keep in memory the blessed Savior and His words. It is necessary for us to consider Him, for He has traveled this way before us. He took upon Himself the form of a man, walked the shores of Galilee and was tempted in all points like as we are.

Many times as we travel on the "strait and narrow way" we meet with discouragements; darkness seems to becloud the skies; we feel as if our hope is almost lost and the pursuit of the way our Savior went might just as well be given up. We often get a small share of His persecutions; we understand in a limited measure what He had to endure being brought before His accusers; our life seems to be as that of a pilgrim; this world seems to have no place in which we fit; we are strangers and sojourners. With the evil environments, the gloomy appearance of things and the discouraging words of Satan and his agents, we become wearied and faint-hearted. We think surely we are having a worse time than any one else, have more trials, more disappointments, discouragements and severe temptations

than the other brothers or sisters in the church. "Surely if they met with the trials of my life, they would not shout and testify so freely as they do. I could be joyous and filled with the Spirit, too, if every thing went as nicely and smoothly with me as it seems to with them; but my way is so hard and dark; surely no one ever traveled this awful, dreary way before me. I'm left alone to struggle on. It seems to be so bright where others are, but thick clouds confront me continually. Certainly I have lost the way, so I'll just stop and give up; I will never be able to make it all the way through anyway." So, here many hang their harps on the willows, faint away or fall into deep sleep as did the disciples while watching in the garden of Gethsemane, cast away their confidence and thus, forfeit their promised reward.

But here, "There has no temptation taken you but that is common to man." "Consider him who ENDURED such contradiction of sinners." Remember He has been this way before. He knows all the trials and difficulties of your life every day. Remember His word. He says, "My grace is sufficient for thee." "I'll never leave thee nor forsake thee." "He will not suffer ye to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way of escape."

So you are not left by yourself by any means. He's not left you to battle alone. He has not only been this way before us, but he goes with us, walks beside us and will conduct us safely through if we only trust and follow Him. His angels are with us and serve as a body-

(Continued on page 4.)

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INFORMATION—If you change your address you should promptly notify us, giving the old and new address.

When you renew your subscription please say "renewal." When you subscribe, please say "new subscriber."
 Always write names and addresses PLAIN. If we fail to get your name or address right please notify us and we will take pleasure in making the correction.

We will do our best to keep from making mistakes, but if we make a mistake we will take pleasure in correcting it if you notify us.

We invite all the workers to send in reports of interest from the battle field. If nothing else a postal card telling where you are this week.

Help us make the Evangel a medium of information as well as a spiritual blessing.
 Address all communications relating to the paper, and make all drafts, checks, express and postal orders payable to A. J. TOMLINSON, 2524 Gaut street, Cleveland, Tenn.

"Good news for the sick" is the title of the tract added to our list.

The monthly reports should not be sent in until on or after the very last day of the month. But they should all be sent in promptly then.

We have a splendid corps of workers soliciting subscriptions for the Evangel, and their assistance is greatly appreciated, but we need a thousand more.

We are mailing this week to some member of every church a subscription sheet. I trust they will all be returned in due time filled with names. We must work if we would win, and we must win.

I wish I could express my love to every one of the Evangel family. I feel that we are bound together very closely, but it is my desire to have the bonds made stronger. These are perilous times and we must love and help each other. We know God is with us, and this gives us courage and boldness.

There is truly a sound of abundance of rain. I believe I can say truthfully that the reports show a decided increase in the power and fire falling in the meetings above that of any winter of the past in my experience. Usually the cold winter months bring a kind of a lull in the revival spirit, but not so this winter. Hallelujah! Most all of the churches seem to be favored with the presence of God right through the cold winter weather.

Evangelists Notice.

Read this carefully and do not misunderstand. We now have the new certificate forms ready and according to the ruling of the last Assembly it will be necessary for all the Evangelists to have their credentials renewed.

DO NOT STOP READING YET.

To avoid such a rush at the central office we will call them in by sections. Please do not send until your section is called. The first section will include all west of the Mississippi river.

Be it known to all Evangelists of the Church of God now laboring west of the Mississippi river, that on and after the fifth day of February 1918 your old credentials are declared null and void, and, therefore, you are hereby

authorized to send your old credentials to the principle office at Cleveland, Tenn., to have them replaced with new ones that are good for 1918.

SECOND SECTION.**The State of Alabama:**

Be it known to all Evangelists now laboring in the state of Alabama that on and after February 15 your old credentials are declared null and void and you are hereby authorized to send same to the head office at Cleveland, Tenn., for renewal.

These two sections are all we will call in at this time. The balance in any state or territory will be good until called for. Please do not misunderstand and send in before your time.

26.

Hayesville, N. C.

Dear Brother Tomlinson:

I want to sound a note of praise to our great Redeemer for the way He is blessing us here at Tusquitee. Glory! It is just wonderful how the Lord does manifest His power in our midst every time we meet. It is joy unspeakable and full of glory.

We are having many persecutions and a great deal of opposition from the enemy, but thank God, he can't stop the blessings from being showered down from heaven above. Bless the name of Jesus! The fiery darts of the wicked one only drive us closer to Jesus and are just stepping stones to the glory world.

The church is moving on; some are getting saved and sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost. We have our new church building paid for now. Thank God for the way He has opened the way. Glory! If God be for us, who can be against us?

I am glad today still finds me with the fire of God's love burning in my soul. It is glorious to me to think of how God brought me in this precious way and gave me such a wonderful salvation. I am so glad the news was brought to me when I was lost and sad. I praise Him for keeping me through many dark hours of temptation and today I am still looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of my faith.

I praise the Lord for healing me and my family. I haven't tasted medicine in eight years. I find that Jesus is all I need.

Your unworthy sister,
 Lillie Melton.

Notice.

I have just arrived in Tennessee from Texas, where I have been working to get the churches arranged in districts and to get pastors for them. I have pastors for all the churches and district overseers for two districts. Brother Herschel Scoggins has the Paris district which includes Paris, Ladonia, Clutter and Point. Brother A. H. Bryans has the Lyra district which takes in Lyra and Thurber. He will also help care for the church at Point. Brother Van B. Merrill is pastor at Point, and Brother E. C. Scarbrough at Clutter and Ladonia.

The work is moving on in Texas now. Praise the Lord! If there are any good evangelists who want to go to new fields and work, Texas is a big state and there is work for all who will go. They are welcome. So come on boys, let us push the battle harder than we ever have.

Geo. T. Brouayer,
 Sobel, Tenn.

Further Receipts For Missions.

Mrs. Joe Maze, Van W.

Ohio.....\$ 0 50

Church, Chokoloskee, Fla., 2 04

E. D. Hopkins, Cullowhee, N. C.....1 00

S. S. Haworth, Temple, Okla.,.....10 00

Mrs. J. W. McCormack, Chickamauga, Ga.,.....1 00

I. M. Davee, Santa Fe Springs, Cal.,.....1 50

S. S. Ladonia, Texas.....1 78

L. F. Ransone, Lithia, Fla., 2 00

Mrs. T. W. Mills, Bushnell Fla.,.....2 00

Church, Chattanooga, Tenn., 0 50

by Sister Willingham, Lorena Cotton, Columbus, Ohio,.....8 00

J. T. Clark, Weir, Miss., 1 00

B. C. Maddox, Huntsville, Ala.,.....8 00

R. Y. and Emma Maddox, Huntsville, Ala.,.....6 00

Glover P. Ledford, Hayesville, N. C.,.....4 00

Mrs. E. Anderson, Hico, Texas,.....2 50

Mrs. E. L. Moore, Arcadia, Fla.,.....1 00

Mrs. Jim Clegg, Mathiston, Miss.,.....2 65

Church, Spring Place, Ga., 2 70

Church, Knoxville, Tenn., 1 60

L. E. Jones, Fonde, Ky., 1 00

I. J. Swanson, Summer-ville, Ga.,.....1 00

Vesta Gaines, Summer-ville, Ga.,.....2 00

Church, Atlanta, Ga.,.....3 20

Church, Atlanta, Ga.,.....2 35

Total amount received since last report.....64 27

Previously reported.....293 05

Total receipts this year...\$357 32

Bompas Creek, Ill.

Dear Brother Tomlinson and All of the Saints—Greetings to you in the name of Jesus:

I speak for all of the members of our class on Bompas Creek. We are on the mountain top of holiness. We are but few, but when we meet together the Lord is in our midst. We can feel His presence. He fills our hearts with gladness and causes us to shout and dance and talk in tongues, and gives the interpretation. Bless His name forever!

I cannot see why one who has received the Holy Ghost will ever go back to the things of this world; for I feel more determined to go through than ever before. My soul is filled with joy and determination to go all the way. Bless His holy name!

God has chosen one of our members to help carry this last message to the world, and he is certainly giving the straight gospel truth as he goes. It comes sharp sometimes but it is the Word of God and that is what is good for us. Let it come; I always like to hear the truth for that is what makes us free.

We love Brother Gillaspie and would like to keep him with us but we want him to go where he can accomplish the most good.

We are a happy crowd. If you don't believe it, just come over and spend a few days with us and you will see that God is with us. We have the victory. Hallelujah! All of our members have the Holy Ghost. Praise the Lord!

We have gotten to the place where the persecution has no effect upon us except to draw us nearer to God. We just keep sweet in our souls and the Lord keeps feeding us on the good things of heaven. We can say with David, "Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless his holy name."

We certainly love the Evangel. We read it through the first thing we do when we receive it. God bless you all.
 Frank Nuding.

Washington, D. C.

Dear Brother Tomlinson and Evangel Readers:

Once more through one of the best papers of today (the Evangel), I want to say that the New Year finds me with victory. Praise God! He is able to take care of us and sweetly keep us no matter where we are. I have found Him faithful that promised.

As the New Year came in I re-consecrated my life with a greater determination to make greater sacrifices for Him than I did last year, and to wage a more unyielding warfare against sin and all unrighteousness than ever before.

I praise the Lord for this narrow way. I am glad of the privilege of being a member of the greatest institution on earth—the Church of God.

There is no church here, but there is a band of Pentecostal people. How many times I have longed for the Church of God. Often the tears would flow, but Jesus is so precious, and the Holy Ghost is such a Comforter! As I walked and talked with God oh, such glory He would pour into my soul! Truly, it has been past all understanding. Hallelujah! He loves us with an everlasting love. Praise His dear name!

As the many signs tell us of His coming I am so anxious to be ready. What a glorious day when we shall all go sweeping through the gates of the city of our God. The glory that shall be revealed will more than repay all the trials, troubles and persecutions endured for His dear name's sake. There shall be no more sorrow, no more sadness, no more parting with loved ones, but we shall be united, and together shall adore Him saying, "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty."

Your sister in His love,
 Mrs. Christina Smith.

307-K St. S.E.

Washington, D. C.

P.S. I would like the address of Sister Milo Cross.

Notice.

To the Churches of God in Arkansas:

First of all, I want to say that I am praying for the state of Arkansas, but especially for those who belong to the Church of God, that their lives, testimony and conversation may be such as will glorify God and lead others to Him.

I intend to visit the churches just as soon as I can.

I should like for every pastor and evangelist to let me hear from them and of how the work is getting along; and more especially I shall be glad for them to write me when new churches are set in order, as each overseer is to give a monthly report of his work.

If any church is without a pastor, please inform me about it.

Let us put forth every effort we possibly can to establish the Church of God in as many counties as possible.

My home address is 449 W. Sparta St. McMinnville, Tenn.
 E. J. Boehmer,
 Overseer of Ark.

Hiawassee, Va.

On the morning of Jan. 15, the death angel visited the home of Brother and Sister John W. Smith and claimed their baby, little Bearnas. He was a comfort to the home and we miss him sadly, but we weep not as those who have no hope, for we shall meet him by and by.

His aunt,
 Lizzie Smith.

My Object in Attending the Bible Training School at Cleveland, Tenn.

On one occasion Jesus said, "Ye are my friends if ye do whatsoever I command you."—John 15:14.

As I think of the present condition of the world, I am persuaded to believe that the end is near, even at the door. As I think of our beautiful American land and of the freedom of her inhabitants, their privileges to accept the gospel, the many beckonings they have from time to time to come to Jesus, it makes my heart, as it were, weep within me just to think of the thousands who will not heed. How lovingly our blessed Savior stood, no doubt with outstretched arms, and said: "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Matt. 11:28.)

Oh, how blessed it is to know that while the world is in trouble and distress, we can have peace and joy in our souls. On the other hand, there are thousands, yes, millions, who know nothing about this wonderful salvation that we are enjoying.

Oh, the millions of people with human hearts and never dying souls, who are living in other nations and have never heard about Jesus and His love! Jesus gave to His disciples the command—"Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." He did not tell them to preach the gospel in just one or two nations, but He said, "Go ye into all the world." So according to this Scripture some one must go and preach to these dying men and women in other nations the gospel of Jesus Christ.

I am praising God because I sought and obtained this wonderful salvation. I have been enjoying it for about four years. Shortly after I said "good by" to this old world and got into this wonderful way of holiness, God began to talk to my heart about working for Him in a distant land. I began to ponder this thought in my mind, whether or not it was the voice of God. But after praying and waiting on God for more than one year I was convinced that it was the call of God and I said "yes" to Him.

I am now attending the Bible Training School in Cleveland, Tenn., for no other purpose but to acquire the necessary preparation to carry the gospel of Jesus to the dying inhabitants of China.

The harvest is ripe, but laborers are few, and Jesus is soon coming. "Watch therefore, for ye know not the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh."—Matt. 25:13.

A. D. Evans.

Punta Gorda, Fla.

Dear Brother and Sisters in Christ:

I want to request your prayers for my son who is in the army. His health has been very poor. He writes that he has been converted but he is anxious to receive the Holy Ghost. He is not satisfied to die as he is. He wants to get ready to meet Jesus before he dies.

Please pray for me that I may be healed. I am saved and filled with the Holy Ghost and trust God for soul and body.

Your sister in Christ
 Mrs. Keen.

The Jew to Have Palestine

SAM O. PERRY

As the British army has lately captured Jerusalem from the Turks, and is gaining possession of Palestine, and in view of the fact that the British government has decided to give the Jews possession of Palestine, much is being said and written on this subject, and justly so, for as the Jews again get possession of their native land, they reach one of the most remarkable epochs in their history, and not only for them is this true but for all the nations of earth.

Among the many signs of Jesus coming to establish His kingdom on earth, this is one of the most prominent.

We know of nothing that we could give our readers at this time on this subject, that would be more to the point than the following clippings from "The Weekly Evangel."

THE JEWS AND PALESTINE.

A demonstration of Zionists was recently held in London to pass a vote of thanks to the British Government for promising to hand over Palestine to the Jews as soon as the Turk had been expelled from that country. It was very clear that an overwhelming portion of London's Jewry is in favor of a proposed autonomous Palestine as a national home for the Jewish people. From the moment when Lord Rothschild opened the proceedings till the final note of the "Hatikvah" or Song of Hope, the national anthem of new Judea, died away, the feeling was one of rising enthusiasm. Mr. Samuel, M. P., roused the meeting to a pitch of great excitement, who repeating in Hebrew the traditional prayer "Next Year in Jerusalem," he maintained that, consequent upon the promise of the British Government, the words have now a new and altogether hopeful significance.—"The Christian."

Do not we who are looking for the coming of our Lord, and the "New Jerusalem," feel a thrill go through us as we read of the dry bones coming together (Ezek. 36) and the words of Christ when He said, "Now learn a parable of the fig tree; when his branch is yet tender and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh; so likewise ye, when ye see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors." Matt. 24: 32. The branch of the fig tree is indeed becoming tender in more ways than one, for we see signs not only of national life being manifested amongst the Jews, but their opposition to Christ is not so bitter as it was. Hallelujah, our summer is nigh!

WHAT IT MEANS—THE BRITISH IN JERUSALEM

With the British forces now in Jerusalem, people are asking what can be the meaning of it. The editor of a New York paper has sought the views of various prominent Jewish leaders and Protestant ministers, asking them, "What will it mean to the world and the church if Turkish rule is ended in Palestine?" The replies received were not satisfying to us, they further shewed that the Jews would return in unbelief and that the Christian leaders of to day have utterly failed to grasp the import of what is likely to be one of the most significant and far reaching event of this momentous period.

Here are some of the replies received:

The Rev. Charles Stelzle

thinks "that were Jerusalem to come into the hands of the allies the result would be that there would be a sanitary crusade, better drinking water and better Government! However New York and the United States is the New Jerusalem of the forward Jew." A prominent Baptist preacher of New York says, "The conquest of Palestine by Britain is a romantic event and may lead to historic results." The rector of Trinity Church, New York, is pleased that the land associated with the life of Christ should be rescued for Christians. The bishop of the diocese of New York Episcopal Church thinks that the result will make India and Egypt safe for Great Britain. The editor of the "American Hebrew," however says that the dream of Israel since the dispersion is near realization. Another Jewish leader says: "This third fall of Jerusalem instead of spelling tragedy to the Jewish people will mean the realization of the great Hope." President Wilson's pastor says: "The fall of Jerusalem will prove an event of immense importance and also a distinct benefit for civilization."

These extracts from prominent men show clearly that they have missed the full spiritual meaning connected with the fall of Jerusalem, especially as Britain has officially promised to hand over Palestine to the Jews. Few, very few, seem to understand the Divine purposes hidden behind the wresting of Jerusalem from the Turk and the giving of it to the Jews. Is the majority or the minority right? Have we a Scriptural parallel? Let us look at the time of the captivity of the Jews at the time of Daniel. There were thousands of Jews in exile, and no doubt scribes, priests, leaders and elders; but we read of not one who took the trouble to study prophecy save Daniel, who consulted Jeremiah, chapter 25. The result as recorded in Daniel nine is, that not only was Daniel heard in the prayer for his people and that the "seventy weeks (years) are determined upon thy people and upon thy Holy city to finish transgression," but Daniel also had most wonderful enlightenment as to future events. His revelations are the ne plus ultra (nothing beyond) of prophecy, for the numbers given by God to Daniel stand out as the main chart as the dates to future events. They are like the steel frame-work of an immense skyscraper. Christ in His subsequent teaching as to the end of the age and His coming, did not alter or undo Daniel's prophecy, but as it were just filled in the brick and stone work of the steel structure erected by Daniel. In fact Christ quotes Daniel and tells us to understand what we read of it therein.

Note, as the time approached for the termination of God's punishment to the Jews, only one man, Daniel, seems to have understood aright the prophecy of Jeremiah. Daniel prayed and reminded God of His promise to Jeremiah. Wonderful though it may seem, yet that very reminder and prayer was what God desired and what, in a way we cannot comprehend, brought about the actual fulfillment of the promise God had made. What a wonderful privilege the

saints of the Most High have in this respect.

To come to our own times, there are many signs of our Lord's return and we have a distinct statement made by Christ Himself in Luke 21:23-24 that there was to be "great distress in the land (Palestine) and wrath upon this people (the Jews) and they shall fall by the edge of the sword and shall be led away captive into all nations." That has actually taken place as we all know. But Christ adds "and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles until the time of the Gentiles be fulfilled." Up to the present date since that fall, Jerusalem has been trodden under foot of the Gentiles over 1800 years. Now we have the immediate prospect of the Gentile treading down of Jerusalem ending. That fact accomplished means that automatically the time of the Gentiles closes. Christ adds, "when these things begin to come to pass then look up and lift up your heads for your redemption draweth nigh." Do not you think that Daniel lifted up his head after the message from Gabriel telling of the deliverance shortly to take place for the captive Jews? How much more should we not lift up our heads when we have such a cheering message from Christ Himself. The study of prophecy pays, it leads to prayer, ripens God's plans and gives joy and hope.—A. W. F.

Morristown, Tenn.

Dear Brother Tomlinson and Evangel Readers:

I am so grateful to God for convicting me of my sins when I was lost and without God. I knew it was His voice speaking to me and I yielded, went to the altar and asked God to save me.

I didn't get saved the first time I sought salvation, but I went to the altar again and again. Finally the Lord saved me in one of the sister's homes. Just as I was willing to give up my own way and take salvation God's way, He spoke peace to my soul. Such joy flooded my soul I could not keep still. The sister and I had a good time praising the Lord.

I am glad to say that I was saved in a holiness meeting where they taught me that I could live above sin. I walked in this light (sanctification) a long time, and when I heard the teaching about the baptism with the Holy Ghost, I said, "That is what my heart has been longing for so long." I am so glad the Lord counted me worthy of this blessed experience. That has been about seven years ago and the Comforter still abides today and speaks when He pleases. Praise His name!

I want the saints to pray for me that I may do more for the Lord this year than ever before. Time is short; the remaining days in which we have to work are precious. The time is at hand when we need to be at our very best for God.

Your sister in Christ,
W. G. Rembert.

Macon, Ga.

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tf. W. W. Rush.

Monarat, Va.

Dear Brother Tomlinson:

I was converted about eighteen years ago and joined the Missionary Baptist Church. I held meetings in many different places and taught the folks that they received the Holy Ghost when they were converted. At that time I honestly thought I had the Holy Ghost.

But a few weeks ago I went to the Church of God at Hickory Point and heard Brother Arthur Fortner preach. He preached the Word of God so straight and proved clearly that Cornelius was a saved man before He received the Holy Ghost and that when he did receive the Holy Ghost he spoke in other tongues. Of course I knew I had never spoken in tongues. He also spoke of Philip who preached in the city of Samaria and brought great joy to the city. And when the church at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the Word of God they sent unto them Peter and John that they might receive the Holy Ghost.

In addition to this, the Lord gave me a wonderful vision showing this is the everlasting gospel. I was mightily convinced and went and confessed my condition to the public and went to the altar. The Lord wonderfully sanctified me and I am now a member of the Church of God. I am seeking the baptism with the Holy Ghost.

I have enjoyed salvation more since I got sanctified than I ever did in all my converted life.

My wife was also blessed in the meeting. She has been sick about four years; we spent all our living on doctor and hospital bills but nothing cured her. Since we have been convinced of the way of holiness we have decided to take Jesus for our healer as well as our Savior. Please pray that my wife may be completely healed and that we may both be filled with the Holy Ghost.

Yours, looking for Jesus,
Lee Perdue.

Edward Lake Turner.

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Turner of Ortega, will regret to learn of the death of their son, Edward Lake, aged 14 months, which occurred at their residence yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock after a short illness. Funeral services took place this afternoon at 1 o'clock from the residence, conducted by Rev. J. H. Spicer. Interment was made in the Old City cemetery under the direction of Burns J. Campbell, funeral directors.

[The above is a clipping from a Florida paper. Brother and sister Turner have our sympathy in this time of bereavement.—Ed.]

Eupora, Miss.

Dear Brother Tomlinson and Evangel Readers:

I praise God because I am a reclaimed child of His. He brought me back to Himself the second night of this year and made me an heir according to His promise. Oh, may the Lord help me to be a obedient child for I fear that if I should leave my Father's home again He would disinherit me forever.

Let me say to the children of the Most High: The wealth to which we shall some day fall heir, far surpasses the wealth of this world. I feel rich now because I have riches in glory. Dear backslider, I know how

to sympathize with you. I was a backslider three years. God only knows what a miserable wretch I was. Listen! God once called His people, saying, "Return, ye backsliding children, and I will heal your backslidings." So come back to the fold, and let us obey our Father.

I am in the draft and I desire the saints to pray that I may have grace to overcome every temptation if I have to go to camp.

Your brother,
John Partridge.

Mathiston, Miss.

Dear Evangel Readers:

I am praising the Lord this morning for full salvation. I praise Him for guiding me into this way of holiness. I am so thankful for my place in Jesus; I desire to be so humble and submissive to His will that my life each day may show to others the sweetness and joy of a close walk with Him.

God has given me such a glorious experience of love and joy in this life, I often wonder how it will be in glory. I am more determined to hold on to Him than ever before. There is nothing else to do. He is our refuge and strength, and by faith I shall cling to Him till He comes or calls.

Nearly three years ago the Lord wonderfully sanctified me and such joy flooded my soul! I had never dreamed that one could be filled with such glory in this life. God's Word was a new book to me. As I studied it carefully and prayerfully I saw that there was greater power yet for God's children. Though God had dealt with me marvelously at different times, yet I realized there was more for me.

Last February we heard of the meetings at Mt. Moriah about six miles away. I prayed over it and thought I might go if it were the Lord's will. February 20, was a beautiful spring like day, so my husband and I went to the meeting. Brother Simpson preached. I feasted on the message from Leviticus 10:10. Well, I was wonderfully up lifted; I felt most wonderfully the presence of the Lord. I stayed for the night service and was wonderfully baptized with the Holy Ghost. I was lifted so high above this world I seemed to be right in the presence of the Lord. When the Holy Ghost came in He spoke in other tongues. Praise Him forever!

When I was sanctified there came a call to teach the Word that I did not understand; I did not think such a thing possible, so I said, "I will never let the devil make a crank of me." But the call came the second time. I mentioned the matter to a friend who said to me: "The devil did not call you to preach God's Word." I fasted and prayed and asked God if it were a call from Him to reveal it to me by giving me an experience like I had the evening before and I would never doubt it; this He did, and another time, too, He answered prayer so definitely. I know He has a work for me to do. Please pray that God will have His way with me and mold me into a soul winner for Him.

Pray for my family and for a work at this place. Oh! it is needed here so much. I am the only one here who has the baptism but there are a few sanctified people here. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." I covet your prayers.

Your sister in Jesus,
Mrs. Jim Olegg.

What Does it Take to Win Souls For God?

J. A. DAVIS.

Shall we come at the people with a whip or in love? Shall we rake them over their flowers and jewelry the first thing we do? No; but preach Jesus to them and when they get saved, sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost, God will show them how to shed off all carnal things.

Of course it is our duty to tell those who have become Christians what to do, and we should preach against all style and abominable pride and do our best to keep it out of the church; but the thing to preach to sinners is, to repent and believe the gospel. (Mark 1:15) And when they repent and believe the gospel they will see that it teaches against wearing outward adornings and costly apparel, and they will love the preacher for warning them against these things. They will soon shed off and look like new persons.

But some get the cart before the horse; they preach snakes, feathers, flowers, short sleeves and all such, the first thing they do when they get to a new place, and in a few days they leave with the folks all mad at them. Then they say, "Didn't we stir the devil?" Yes, they do, and some stir up more than they can cast out, when if they had preached Jesus to the people they would have left a band of happy saints filled with the Holy Ghost.

They should have preached these things to the people when they went to set the church in order and not to sinners, for they can't see the evil in them.

The wise man says there is a time to all things. Ah! that our preachers could learn this lesson.

I have seen people come to the altar with their jewelry on and get salvation, then they would lay aside their finger rings and bracelets and clip the flowers and plumes from their hats when there had not been a word said from the pulpit about it. Why did they do this? Because shedding time had come. The fowls have a time to shed, but if you catch them before that time and pull their feathers out, you will wound them and be liable to kill them. It is the same way in the gospel work. We must get people saved and sanctified then shedding time will come; then, you can preach these things off of them and it will not hurt them.

Everything in the Bible must be preached, but let us use wisdom in dividing the truth and put every part in its proper place; then it will accomplish great things. Solomon prayed for wisdom to rule Israel; let us pray that God will give us wisdom to properly carry on this great work of the Church of God.

The first thing and the ONLY thing that Christ and His apostles put before the sinners was the plan of salvation. They preached REPENTANCE. How did John preach? He preached REPENTANCE. What did Jesus preach? He preached REPENTANCE.

People must repent before they can see the evil in pride and style.

May God help us to use wisdom and lift up Jesus to this lost world in a way that will win people to Him instead of driving them away. They are wild, spiritually; let us take the lasso of love and go out on the plains of this old world, rope the poor sinner and bring him to Jesus and to the fold of God—the church. In order to do this we

shall have to get knowledge from above, for without it we would be a failure. The prophet says, "My people are destroyed for the lack of knowledge."

Dear saint, pray for me that I may take part of this advice to myself.

Gone to be With Jesus.

Sister Amanda Bain, wife of our dear Brother I. D. Bain, departed this life Dec. 27, 1917. She was a sufferer for about one year but attended services as long as she could.

Sister Bain has been a Christian ever since I have been acquainted with her; and received the Holy Ghost about two years ago. She was a member of the Church of God at Ridgedale and was faithful to her church.

She leaves to mourn her loss, a husband, four daughters, and two sons, but they do not weep as those who have no hope. She will be sadly missed by all.

Funeral service was held at the church. Many were melted to tears as the Scripture was read about our future home, the first resurrection and the reunion in midway air.

The body was taken to White county, her old home, for burial. A large crowd attended the service there. Both services were conducted by her pastor, J. L. Scott.

REMEMBER HIM AND HIS WORD.

(Continued from page 1.)

guard to deliver us. His grace abounds towards us and will sustain us. We are not traveling in a new way, but the same old way our Savior went—following in His steps.

Then remember His blessed words; they are for comfort, guidance and food to our souls. Remember, too, that though your way is rough and dark, Jesus went this way, suffered all and more than we suffer. Consider Him, His life and sufferings; compare them with yours. Remember His words. Take courage. Arise with more zeal and determination. Take a firmer hold on God's unchanging hand and press steadily on till you reach the goal.

Carmi, Ill.

Dear Brother Tomlinson:

I am so glad to say that I am one of God's children. By His grace I am saved, sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost. Glory to His good name! I am fighting the battle against sin by the power of God. There is mighty power in Jesus' blood.

The Lord is working here in Carmi. Satan, too, is busy with all kinds of false doctrines, but I believe the Church of God is coming to the front. Glory to God! I want to be humble and always ready at Jesus' call to come up higher.

Your sister in Christ,
Rhoda Massinger.

Somerset, Ky.

Dear Brother in Christ Jesus:

Thanks be to God for His goodness to us! He has been blessing us wonderfully during the last two weeks.

We have just closed a two weeks meeting here with victory. Six were saved, three reclaimed and four received the Holy Ghost. Brother Randall and myself were in charge of the services.

Your brother,
J. M. Pence.

Kannapolis, N. C.

Dear Brother Tomlinson:

I am praising God for full and free salvation. I am saved, sanctified and baptized with the Holy Ghost and speak in other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance.

I praise the Lord for saving my entire household (all who have arrived at the age of accountability) and baptizing them with the Holy Ghost.

We had a wonderful time Christmas Day. Several of the saints of Gastonia were with us. The Lord was with us in power and there was dancing, shouting and talking in tongues. Fire was seen by three of the saints. Three were saved and one received the Holy Ghost.

The little church here is getting along finely. Brother Will Stalling is our pastor. The Lord certainly does use him in giving out the Word.

I am so glad I ever saw the way from earth to heaven. I am determined to fight the battle to the end. I am so glad Jesus is able to keep us in the midst of every trial.

I have often prayed to see all my people saved; praise the Lord he is bringing them in, one by one. My dear father who has been out in sin about sixty years has at last been awakened by prayer to God. He laid aside his tobacco which he loved better than his meals, and the Lord sanctified him.

I have a brother in the army; I ask the saints to pray that God will deliver him from that wicked place.

Your unworthy sister,
Mrs. L. E. Pethel.

A FATHER'S ADVICE TO HIS SONS.

T. S. PAYNE

Let me speak to you of your mother. No doubt you have noticed a careworn look on her face lately. It could have been put there by your careless and unthought acts; it is your duty to do all you can to chase it away.

I want you, on arising each morning to greet her with a smile and a kiss; you have no idea how it would brighten her dear face, besides you owe her all this. Away back yonder when you were little babes, she kissed you when no one else was tempted by your fever tainted breath and swollen face. You were not as attractive then as you are now. Through all these years of your life, she has always been ready to cure by the magic of a mother's kisses, your little hands every time they were hurt in their first skirmishes with this rough old world, and many a time her midnight kisses have quieted you by routing all your bad dreams, as she leaned over you while all the rest of the family were asleep. All this has been on interest these many years.

She may not look as "kissable" as you, but if you had done your part of the work for the last ten years the contrast would not be great. Her face does not look as young and tender as yours, and yet if you were sick, that face would appear to you far more beautiful than an angel's as it hovered over you, watching every opportunity to minister to your comfort, and every wrinkle would look to you like beautiful wavelets of sunshine, chasing each other over that dear old face.

She will leave you one of

these days. If these burdens are not lifted off her shoulders they will soon break her down. These hands that have been so faithful in doing every thing they possibly could for you, will be crossed upon her lifeless breast, those neglected lips that gave you your first baby kisses, will be forever closed, those sad tired eyes that have looked so well to your welfare, will have opened in eternity, and then you will appreciate your mother; but Ah! it will then be too late.

Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Brother Tomlinson:

I am glad to say that I am still standing fast in the liberty where with Christ has made me free, filled with the Holy Ghost and He speaks in other tongues. I praise God for it!

We have a large membership now. Sunday we had a grand time. Brother O. F. Bright and a part of his band were with us. There was much interest in the altar service. Two were baptized with the Holy Ghost and several sick ones were healed. Six members were added to the church. Praise the Lord! We feel like going all the way with Jesus.

The Lord has wrought some marvelous healings at our church. An elderly lady, sixty years of age who had walked on crutches for several months, was healed and left the church walking along with the crutches in her hand. Also a brother who had been lame for eleven months was healed. He left his crutches and has not had them since. Praise the Lord! There is power in the blood of Jesus.

We now have two churches in the state. We hope to have a convention here in the spring.

Your brother in Christ,
W. S. Smith.

Eldorado, Ill.

Dear Brother Tomlinson:

I want to praise God today for salvation through the blood of Jesus. I praise Him for the way He is pouring out His Spirit here in Eldorado. Our revival, conducted by pastor D. P. Barnett is getting better all time. The messages are going forth in power, and the Word is having its effect. The meeting has been in progress nearly three weeks; about sixty-five have been blessed; twenty-two have received the Holy Ghost, and twenty have been added to the church. The saints are refreshed as the Spirit is poured out and they dance, talk in tongues and interpret under the mighty power of God.

I feel that this is going to be a great year for the Lord. I believe He will do great things for us if we will do our part. We should ask in faith, believing, and He has promised to grant us our request.

As I write I feel the Pentecostal flame burning deep down in my heart. That sweet voice of Jesus is whispering in my heart the words, "Go ye." I can hardly stay at my work; I can hardly wait until spring when I expect to get out into the harvest field. I must be about my Father's business. We truly are the eleventh hour laborers and I want to do my mite in the great vineyard of the Lord.

I have so much to praise the Lord for I can hardly find a place to stop, but time and space will not permit me to write more. I desire the prayers of the saints everywhere.

John O. Yates.

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